## Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## Listing of the Claims

1.    (currently amended)  A system that maintains synchronization between a video signal and an audio signal that are processed using clocks that are locked, the system comprising:

a component that determines ~~at least one initial level~~ an initial minimum operating level, an initial maximum operating level, and an initial midpoint level of a buffer, the initial midpoint level is computed as being equal to half of the initial maximum operating level plus half of the initial minimum operating level;

a component that determines at least one current level of the buffer; and

a component that determines an amount of drift by comparing ~~the~~ at least one of the initial minimum operating level, the initial maximum operating level, and the initial midpoint level of the buffer to the at least one current level of the buffer and adjusts the clocks to maintain the initial midpoint level of the buffer if the amount of drift reaches a threshold level.

2.    (canceled)

3.    (canceled)

4.    (canceled)

5.    (currently amended)  The system set forth in claim 1, wherein the at least one current level of the buffer comprises a current midpoint level ~~(Cur Mid)~~.

6.      (currently amended)  The system set forth in claim ~~3~~ 1, wherein the at least one current level of the buffer comprises a current minimum operating level ~~(Cur Min)~~, a current maximum operating level ~~(Cur Max)~~, and a current midpoint level ~~(Cur Mid)~~.

7.      (currently amended)  The system set forth in claim 6, wherein the current midpoint level ~~(Cur Mid)~~ is calculated <u>as being equal to</u> ~~according to the following formula:~~ ~~Operating Midpoint~~ [[=]] ~~current midpoint level (Cur Mid)~~ [[=]] <u>the</u> current minimum operating level ~~(Cur Min)~~ [[+]] <u>plus the</u> initial midpoint level ~~(Init Mid)~~ [[−]] <u>minus the</u> initial minimum operating level ~~(Init Min)~~.

8.      (previously presented)  The system set forth in claim 1, wherein the audio signal and the video signal comprise a Motion Picture Experts Group (MPEG) signal.

9.      (previously presented)  The system set forth in claim 1, wherein the system comprises a portion of a television set.

10.     (previously presented)  The system set forth in claim 9, wherein the television set comprises a High Definition Television (HDTV) set.

11.     (currently amended)  A system that maintains synchronization between a video signal and an audio signal that are processed using clocks that are locked, the system comprising:
        means for determining ~~at least one initial level~~ <u>an initial minimum operating level, an initial maximum operating level, and an initial midpoint level</u> of a buffer<u>, the initial midpoint level is computed as being equal to half of the initial maximum operating level plus half of the initial minimum operating level</u>;
        means for determining at least one current level of the buffer;
        means for determining an amount of drift by comparing ~~the~~ at least one <u>of the</u> initial <u>minimum operating level, the initial maximum operating level, and the initial midpoint</u> level of the buffer to the at least one current level of the buffer; and

means for adjusting the clocks to maintain the initial midpoint level of the buffer if the amount of drift reaches a threshold level.

12.    (canceled)

13.    (canceled)

14.    (canceled)

15.    (currently amended)  The system set forth in claim ~~13~~ 11, wherein the at least one current level of the buffer comprises a current midpoint level ~~(Cur Mid)~~.

16.    (currently amended)  The system set forth in claim ~~13~~ 11, wherein the at least one current level of the buffer comprises a current minimum operating level ~~(Cur Min)~~, a current maximum operating level ~~(Cur Max)~~, and a current midpoint level ~~(Cur Mid)~~.

17.    (currently amended)  The system set forth in claim 16, wherein the current midpoint level ~~(Cur Mid)~~ is calculated as being equal to ~~according to the following formula:~~ ~~Operating Midpoint~~ [[=]] ~~current midpoint level (Cur Mid)~~ [[=]] the current minimum operating level ~~(Cur Min)~~ [[+]] plus the initial midpoint level ~~(Init Mid)~~ [[−]] minus the initial minimum operating level ~~(Init Min)~~.

18.    (currently amended)  A method of maintaining synchronization between a video signal and an audio signal that are processed using clocks that are locked, the method comprising:
        determining ~~at least one initial level~~ an initial minimum operating level, an initial maximum operating level, and an initial midpoint level of a buffer, the initial midpoint level is computed as being equal to half of the initial maximum operating level plus half of the initial minimum operating level;
        determining at least one current level of the buffer; and

determining an amount of drift by comparing ~~the~~ at least one <u>of the</u> initial <u>minimum</u>

<u>operating level, the initial maximum operating level, and the initial midpoint</u> level of the buffer

to the at least one current level of the buffer; and

adjusting the clocks to maintain the initial midpoint level of the buffer if the amount of

drift reaches a threshold level.


19.    (canceled)


20.    (currently amended)  The method set forth in claim ~~19~~ <u>20</u>, comprising:

defining the at least one current level of the buffer to comprise a current minimum

operating level ~~(Cur Min)~~, a current maximum operating level ~~(Cur Max)~~, and a current

midpoint level ~~(Cur Mid)~~; and

computing the current midpoint level (Cur Mid) <u>as being equal to</u> ~~according to the~~

~~following formula:~~

~~Operating Midpoint~~ [[=]] ~~current midpoint level (Cur Mid)~~ [[=]] <u>the</u> current minimum operating

level ~~(Cur Min)~~ [[+]] <u>plus the</u> initial midpoint level ~~(Init Mid)~~ [[−]] <u>minus the</u> initial minimum

operating level ~~(Init Min)~~.


21.    (new)  A system that maintains synchronization between a video signal and an audio

signal that are processed using clocks that are locked, the system comprising:

a component that determines an initial minimum operating level, an initial maximum

operating level, and an initial midpoint level of a buffer;

a component that determines a current minimum operating level, a current maximum

operating level, and a current midpoint level of the buffer, the current midpoint level is

calculated as being equal to the current minimum operating level plus the initial midpoint level

minus the initial minimum operating level; and

a component that determines an amount of drift by comparing at least one of the initial

minimum operating level, the initial maximum operating level, and the initial midpoint level of

the buffer to the at least one of the current minimum operating level, the current maximum

operating level, and the current midpoint level of the buffer and adjusts the clocks to maintain the initial midpoint level of the buffer if the amount of drift reaches a threshold level.

22.      (new)  A system that maintains synchronization between a video signal and an audio signal that are processed using clocks that are locked, the system comprising:

      means for determining an initial minimum operating level, an initial maximum operating level, and an initial midpoint level of a buffer;

      means for determining a current minimum operating level, a current maximum operating level, and a current midpoint level of the buffer, the current midpoint level is calculated as being equal to the current minimum operating level plus the initial midpoint level minus the initial minimum operating level;

      means for determining an amount of drift by comparing at least one of the initial minimum operating level, the initial maximum operating level, and the initial midpoint level of the buffer to the at least one of the current minimum operating level, the current maximum operating level, and the current midpoint level of the buffer; and

      means for adjusting the clocks to maintain the initial midpoint level of the buffer if the amount of drift reaches a threshold level.

23.      (new)  A method of maintaining synchronization between a video signal and an audio signal that are processed using clocks that are locked, the method comprising:

      determining an initial minimum operating level, an initial maximum operating level, and an initial midpoint level of a buffer;

      determining a current minimum operating level, a current maximum operating level, and a current midpoint level of the buffer, the current midpoint level is calculated as being equal to the current minimum operating level plus the initial midpoint level minus the initial minimum operating level;

      determining an amount of drift by comparing at least one of the initial minimum operating level, the initial maximum operating level, and the initial midpoint level of the buffer

to the at least one of the current minimum operating level, the current maximum operating level, and the current midpoint level of the buffer; and

adjusting the clocks to maintain the initial midpoint level of the buffer if the amount of drift reaches a threshold level.

24.    (new)  A system that maintains synchronization between a video signal and an audio signal that are processed using clocks, the system comprising:

a component that determines an initial minimum operating level, an initial maximum operating level, and an initial midpoint level of a buffer, the initial midpoint level being derived from the initial maximum operating level and the initial minimum operating level;

a component that determines at least one current level of the buffer; and

a component that determines an amount of drift by comparing at least one of the initial minimum operating level, the initial maximum operating level, and the initial midpoint level of the buffer to the at least one current level of the buffer and adjusts the clocks to maintain the initial midpoint level of the buffer if the amount of drift reaches a threshold level.

25.    (new)  A system that maintains synchronization between a video signal and an audio signal that are processed using clocks, the system comprising:

means for determining an initial minimum operating level, an initial maximum operating level, and an initial midpoint level of a buffer, the initial midpoint level being derived from the initial maximum operating level and the initial minimum operating level;

means for determining at least one current level of the buffer;

means for determining an amount of drift by comparing at least one of the initial minimum operating level, the initial maximum operating level, and the initial midpoint level of the buffer to the at least one current level of the buffer; and

means for adjusting the clocks to maintain the initial midpoint level of the buffer if the amount of drift reaches a threshold level.

26.    (new)  A method of maintaining synchronization between a video signal and an audio signal that are processed using clocks, the method comprising:

determining an initial minimum operating level, an initial maximum operating level, and an initial midpoint level of a buffer, the initial midpoint level being derived from the initial maximum operating level and the initial minimum operating level;

determining at least one current level of the buffer; and

determining an amount of drift by comparing at least one of the initial minimum operating level, the initial maximum operating level, and the initial midpoint level of the buffer to the at least one current level of the buffer; and

adjusting the clocks to maintain the initial midpoint level of the buffer if the amount of drift reaches a threshold level.


27.    (new)  A system that maintains synchronization between a video signal and an audio signal that are processed using clocks that are locked, the system comprising:

a component that determines an initial minimum operating level, an initial maximum operating level, and an initial midpoint level of a buffer;

a component that determines a current minimum operating level, a current maximum operating level, and a current midpoint level of the buffer, the current midpoint level is derived from the current minimum operating level, the initial midpoint level and the initial minimum operating level; and

a component that determines an amount of drift by comparing at least one of the initial minimum operating level, the initial maximum operating level, and the initial midpoint level of the buffer to the at least one of the current minimum operating level, the current maximum operating level, and the current midpoint level of the buffer of the buffer and adjusts the clocks to maintain the initial midpoint level of the buffer if the amount of drift reaches a threshold level.


28.    (new)  A system that maintains synchronization between a video signal and an audio signal that are processed using clocks, the system comprising:

means for determining an initial minimum operating level, an initial maximum operating level, and an initial midpoint level of a buffer;

means for determining a current minimum operating level, a current maximum operating level, and a current midpoint level of the buffer, the current midpoint level is derived from the current minimum operating level, the initial midpoint level, and the initial minimum operating level;

means for determining an amount of drift by comparing at least one of the initial minimum operating level, the initial maximum operating level, and the initial midpoint level of the buffer to the at least one of the current minimum operating level, the current maximum operating level, and the current midpoint level of the buffer; and

means for adjusting the clocks to maintain the initial midpoint level of the buffer if the amount of drift reaches a threshold level.


29.     (new)  A method of maintaining synchronization between a video signal and an audio signal that are processed using clocks, the method comprising:

determining an initial minimum operating level, an initial maximum operating level, and an initial midpoint level of a buffer;

determining a current minimum operating level, a current maximum operating level, and a current midpoint level of the buffer, the current midpoint level being derived from the current minimum operating level, the initial midpoint level, and the initial minimum operating level;

determining an amount of drift by comparing at least one of the initial minimum operating level, the initial maximum operating level, and the initial midpoint level of the buffer to the at least one of the current minimum operating level, the current maximum operating level, and the current midpoint level of the buffer; and

adjusting the clocks to maintain the initial midpoint level of the buffer if the amount of drift reaches a threshold level.